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ADDENDUM TO THE JOURNAL
OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Thursday - 8 March 1973

STATSPEC



I also left with Perle a series of articles from the Star in October 1972 on the Soviet wheat deal and a paper on "Soviet Forced Labor Camps."

25X1 2.  Talked further with Gene Tollefson, on the staff of Senator Henry M. Jackson (D., Wash.), and told him our contacts with people in the Army film business had uncovered a film entitled "The Rescue of the White Horses" which had to do with Hitler's confiscation of a herd of Lippizaner horses and the subsequent recapture of these horses by elements of the US Army. I said I wasn't sure what Jackson's constituents were looking for but we were having the Army film people contact him directly on it.

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Deputy Legislative Counsel

cc:
O/DDCI

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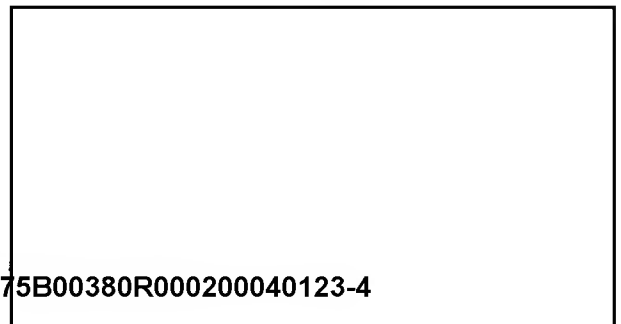
Mr. Thuermer
Mr. Houston

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Soviet Forced Labor Camps

Crime and social dissidence constitute an increasing problem for the Soviet government. During the Brezhnev-Kosygin regime, a series of repressive legislative measures aimed at curbing this "anti-social" behavior has been instituted, and the penal system has undergone revision and expansion. Since 1965, the number of forced laborers has increased at a rate that is double the rate of increase for the population as a whole; at least 85 new forced labor camps have been increased, and yet all available information indicates that existing penal facilities are crowded. At least 2.2 million persons are now confined in over 1,000 forced labor camps and 170 large urban prisons in the USSR. The entire penal system may encompass well over 3 million people, taking into account the network of local detention facilities and other types of punishment without confinement.

Forced labor continues to be the backbone of the Soviet penal system. Soviet penologists justify the economic exploitation of prisoners by the theory that socially useful labor is the key to rehabilitation. In practice, prisoners are forced to work in places and under conditions which are more likely to benefit the Soviet economy than rehabilitate the prisoner. The greatest concentration of labor camps and prisons occurs in the Urals, Northwest, and Siberian regions of the RSFSR.

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